

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph on Page 13, lines 12 - 16 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- The logic of Fig. 3 begins at Block 300 by initializing each of (1 to N) cost extension values (referred to in Fig. 3 as  $E_i$ ), where N is the number of schedulable tasks in the system, to zero. Each schedulable task preferably has a state variable space where its cost extension, period, and deadline values are stored. An additional value is stored in this state space for the task's cost extension when using the present invention. --

Serial No. 09/782,780

-2-

Docket RSW920000109US1